

generating sound for notifying errors. The button input signal can be input by means of a keypad comprising five buttons of one central button, a left top button, a left bottom button, a right top button and a right bottom button arranged at each vertex of a square shape and around the central button. In this case, the keypad is a variation produced by varying a part of the conventional 3×4 numeric keypad. The central button can further be arranged at the center of the adjacent four buttons of the conventional numeric keypad. Alternatively, the keypad can be configured with No. 1,3,5,7 and 9 buttons in the conventional 3×4 numeric keypad.

[23] Also, the invention provides a computer-readable recording medium to which a software program is recorded comprising program instructions implemented so that each step of the methods can be executed by a microprocessor.

Description Of Drawings

[24] These and other features, aspects, and advantages of the present invention will become apparent through the following description, illustrated in the appended drawings. In the drawings:

[25] Fig. 1 shows schematically a conventional numeric keypad employed as an input device for a general small electronic apparatus;

[26] Fig. 2 is a schematic diagram illustrating a five-button type alphabet input device according to the invention;

[27] Figs. 3a to 3g show schematically methods of inputting respective alphabets and special marks by means of a five-button alphabet input method according to the invention;

[28] Fig. 4 is a flow chart showing steps of extracting alphabet representations depending on button inputs in inputting English alphabets according to the invention;

[29] Figs. 5 and 6 show schematically variations of a five-button type English alphabet input device according to the invention;

[30] Fig. 7 illustrates schematically a set of English alphabet button input sequence each of which is collected from English alphabet button input sequences shown in Figs. 3a to 3f, respectively; and

[31] Fig. 8 shows schematically an example in which a five-button keypad according to the invention is employed on a touch screen of a PDA.

Best Mode

[32] Hereinafter, with reference to the accompanying drawings, the present invention will be described in detail with the aid of specific embodiments. The same reference numerals in the figures denote the same relevant means or components.